



NACIONES UNIDAS
CEPAL

ICP Latin America Progress Report

ECLAC-
Statistics Canada



Past Activities

- Two rounds of visits to participating countries
 - Completion of photo album for Food and Beverage products
 - Preparation of photo album for Clothing and Footwear and Furniture and Household Equipment products

Past Activities (Cont.)

- Meeting with the two sub-regions to finalize specifications of all consumption products
 - Products specifications were done using Excel spreadsheets created by the coordination team since SPD software was not available

Past Activities (Cont.)

- Converting Excel spreadsheets used internally in the region to SPD software
 - Differences between the set of characteristics defined within SPD and the Excel spreadsheets used in the region
 - Products codes identical only up to basic headings
 - Adjustments made to small number of product classification
- Uploading the SPD's into Toolpack

Past Activities (cont.)

September 2004

- Toolpack Spanish version functional but not yet operational
 - Problems installing TP
 - Characteristics from SPD not conformed to regional specifications

Past Activities (Cont.)

September 2004

- Toolpack training of 7 countries in Chile
- Acquisition of the computer equipment
 - Most countries in the region don't have the hardware or software requirements to use with TP
 - Only one PC per country.

Past Activities (Cont.)

September 2004

- TP is installed in the PC's and sent to the 3 countries that will use TP in the October price collection
- Collection forms are not practical for field work
 - The product characteristics appear all together in a cell with no distinction between them.
 - No place to record the make, model or country of origin

October Collection Price

- All countries will start the price collection in October
 - Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Peru, Colombia, Uruguay and Bolivia will collect in more than one city
 - Venezuela and Paraguay will collect only in the Country's Capital

October Collection Price (Cont.)

- Colombia, Chile (for the regions) and Bolivia are the only countries to use TP collection forms
 - Since TP is still not operational in these countries, collection forms were exported from PAM and sent in Excel format so they can be used
- Uruguay, Paraguay, Chile, Bolivia and Colombia will use TP for entering the data

October Collection Price (Cont.)

- Members of the project team will be visiting Bolivia, Ecuador and Paraguay in October to help with the price collection

October Price Collection (Cont.)

- Nine out of ten countries have agreed to send to Statistics Canada the micro data that will be collected
- Processing and analysis of the micro data will be done at STC

October Price Data Analysis

- STC will receive the micro data:
 - 1) As a flat file exported from the National CPI database (ex. Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Uruguay)
 - 2) As a file exported from PCM
 - 3) As a combination of the two above
 - Products already available in the national CPI as in 1)
 - New products as in 2)

October Price Data Analysis (Cont.)

Schedule

- November 15: Micro data will be received at STC
- December 1 : Aggregations and preliminary analysis will be sent back to countries
- December 6-11: Regional meeting in Rio to discuss results as well as the field operation of the first price collection

October Price Data Analysis (Cont.)

Some RISKS

- STC still does not have a Toolpack version fully operational
- The function to export / import data from a flat file has not been received
- There has not been a full test of Toolpack assuring us that it will work properly with a large set of data
- Module to calculate parities is still not available and it is urgently needed

October Price Data Analysis (Cont.)

STC needs

- **A tool to export data from the PCM and to import into the PCM data from a flat file into Toolpack by October 1st**
- **The Toolpack module that calculates the parities by October 31th**
 - **An English version is sufficient**

October Price Data Analysis (Cont.)

Plan B

- **STC will prepare its own analysis tool**

Other activities

- A National Accounts seminar in November will be held in Quito with experts from all the Latin America countries participating in the ICP
- Preparation of the work necessary to calculate the expenditure weights will be started at the seminar